IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 1-13 without prejudice to renewal.

Please enter new claims 14-24, as shown below.

1.-13. (Canceled)

14. (New) A method of producing a porous film, the method comprising the steps of:
a) laminating a thick film onto a thin film, forming a laminate having a thick film side and a thin film side;
b) placing said laminate onto a porous sheet such that said laminate is in contact with a first surface of said porous sheet;
c) applying a vacuum to a second surface opposite said first surface of said porous sheet, thereby holding said laminate onto said first surface; and
d) directing laser energy onto the thin film of the laminate until the laser has created a plurality of pores in the thin film.

15. (New) The method of claim 14, wherein at least about 90% of the pores are complete.

16. (New) The method of claim 14, wherein the thin film has a thickness in the range of about 10 μm to about 100 μm.

17. (New) The method of claim 14, wherein the thick film has a thickness in the range of about 25 μm to about 200 μm.

18. (New) The method of claim 14, wherein said porous sheet is ceramic.

19. (New) The method of claim 14, wherein said porous sheet is a metal material containing pores.

20. (New) The method of claim 14, wherein the laser source is a UV excimer laser having a wavelength of 308 nm.

21. (New) The method of claim 20, wherein the excimer energy density is from about 525 to about 725 mJ/cm^2.

22. (New) The method of claim 14, wherein the laser source is a neodymium-yttrium aluminum garnet laser providing a beam having a wavelength of 355 nm.

23. (New) The method of claim 14, wherein from about 0.1 to about 10 mW of power is provided by said laser.

24. (New) The method of claim 14, wherein the porous film is comprised of a material selected from the group consisting of polycarbonates, polyimides, polyethers, polyether imides, polyethylene and polyesters.